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Chesapeake, Virginia's "Cool Math Girls" Make Headlines

Taken from article written by Susan W. Smith, staff writer for the Chesapeake Clipper magazine in the Norfolk Pilot.

Every Wednesday a group of fourth grade girls meet with their club sponsor, Michael Monahan, to take note of the weather situation. They are busy collecting valuable satellite data for NASA's S'COOL project.

The "Cool Math Girls" was started to encourage elementary girls to strengthen their math and science skills. Monahan, who also serves as guidance counselor at Deep Creek Elementary School, will tell you that school studies indicate that between the sixth and eighth grade, girls tend to score lower and have less interest in math and science than boys. Seventy percent of today's job market require higher math and science skills.

Megan, Lauren, Chelsea, Lindsay, Mary and others in their math enrichment group are working to change those statistics, as they gather valuable information for NASA and work toward improving math, science, observation and technological skills. Within a few weeks they were adept at identifying cloud types and charting the results. They learned they

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S'COOL Salutes Student Writers

NASA CLOUDS

By Jerrica Haberer, Meghan Monica, Korie Kasper and Kimberly Schrader. North Collins, NY (42.58,-76.91)

Nasa is cool,

And the new program S'cool,

Seeks kids from all over,

As lucky as a four-leaf clover,

Clouds in the air,

Look for them everywhere,

Only in the sky,

Unique clouds fly,

Different clouds,. I'll name a few,

Stratus, cumulus, and cirrus too!

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Dr. Lin Chambers speaks to students at Ecole Jean Jaures, Le Versoud, France. (45.17, 5.77)

Student Writers (continued from page 1)

From Martigny come the following (46.10, 7.07): **Dans Les Nuages**

By Lucie

Un cocasse stratus, Une masse de cumulus, Une trace de cirrus...

A notre âge, On a tous la tête dans les nuages!

Quand on observe le ciel, On voit des arcs-en-ciel: C'est beau toutes ces couleurs Qui brillent avec ampleur!

Et la nuit, on peut rêver Sous le ciel tout étoilé Criblé de boutons d'or Qui scintillent jusqu'à l'aurore.

Nuage

By Jonas

Le nuage vit, Il bouge, Il n'est pas réverberé, Il voyage dans le monde Et transpire plus que personne!

L'eau qu'il deverse est precieuse comme de la poudre d'or bleu.

Il nous donne la neige de nos montagnes,

Celle qu'on appelle l'or blanc. La nuit, les formes qu'on voit dans le ciel

Pourraient être des gens ou des brebis

Autour de l'Etoile du Berger,

Ou des esprits

Qui ont fini leur vie sur la terre.

Lorsqu'on parle, on crie ou on pleure, On déegage de la vapeur Qui augmente les pleurs du nuage et les tristeses. Et les jours de pluie Arrosent la végétaion de notre planète...

The S'COOL Project at Martigny

By Leila

For more than a year, we have been proud and happy to work for NASA. Near our school we are lucky enough to be able to use the electronic posting of a meteorological station. We can thus rapidly read all the information we need: relative humidity, pressure, temperature... Next, all that remains is to glance at the sky to observe the clouds and contrails. On returning to class, we get on the computer, and click! We send our reports. There, it's as simple as that.

Cool Math Girls (continued from page 1)

could compare their results with other classes around the world. "The young people are involved in realworld situations and working with real measurements," said Stephanie Weckmann, French research scientist, who was visiting the group on a recent Wednesday.

They are so excited and involved with what they are doing that they forget they are learning," said Principal Anita Jones. "We are making school fun, helping with world research and getting our students ready for a strong future."

"Ihink I'll probably be an engineer," said Shannon Smith. "I've learned to like numbers and problems." "I discovered you need math and science in almost everything," added Edison. (36.76, -76.33)



Mats Furugard's student at Dat-Jerksskolan in Rattvik,, Sweden., holds the class' weather tool kit. (60.88,15.12)

S'COOL MESSAGE BOARD IS WORKING. GET IN TOUCH

METEOROLOGY SITES

http://taiga.geog.niu.eud/nwslot/

http://www.usatoday.com/weather/wfront.htm

http://ww2010.atmos.uiuc.edu(Gh)/guides/crclm/act/home.rxml

http://www.storm98.com/

http://www.esdim.noaa.gov

TRY THIS

RADIATION AND SEASONAL ATTIRE

MATERIALS:

THERMOMETERS

LIGHT SOURCE

FOUR SMALL CONTAINERS

VARIOUS COLORS OF CONSTRUCTION PAPER

COLORED PENCILS

DIRECTIONS

- ≺Wrap each container in a different color of construction paper.
- ≺Place water and thermometers in each and check starting temperatures of each.
- ≺Place all containers equal distance from light.
- ≺Turn light on and record the increase of temperature every minute for a total of 20 minutes.
- Construct a line graph for each color using a matching colored pencil.

CONCLUSIONS

- 1. Which color showed the greatest increase in temperature?
- 2. Which showed the least?
- Depending on the season your area is having now, which color clothing would you recommend wearing for greatest comfort? Explain your answer.

French Translation by Stephanie Weckmann



Dozier students take measurements for S'COOL (37.07,-76.51)



Mrs. Mason's students at Dozier Middle School, Newport News, VA, checks their findings.

NEWS BULLETIN

S'COOL now has 253 school sites in 21 countries on 6 continents represented.

TEACHERS: PLEASE let us know if your e-mail address changes over the summer.

Are you teaching school June – August? Your reports for those months would be welcomed.

Electronically Speaking: Remember your old pen pal, well now you can have a "key pal!"

Locate featured schools by their latitude/longitude.

Teacher, please complete EDCATS survey on-line.

NASA Langley Research Center ATT: S'COOL Project Mail Stop 420 Hampton, VA 23681-2199



Upcoming events

CERES Validation Month S'COOL Intensive Observing Period July, 1999 EOS AM Launch/July 1999

> S'COOL Presentations at AGU, June IGARSS, EWOC, July

For more information contact us by:

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http://asd-www.larc.nasa.gov/SCOOL/

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